

ABSTRACT

A positive resist composition which includes a resin component (A) that exhibits increased alkali solubility under the action of acid, an acid generator component (B) that generates acid on exposure, and an organic solvent (C). The component (A) includes (i) a structural unit (a1), which contains an acid dissociable, dissolution inhibiting group and is derived from a (meth)acrylate ester, (ii) a structural unit (a2), which contains an acid dissociable, dissolution inhibiting group that is less readily dissociated than the acid dissociable, dissolution inhibiting group contained in the structural unit (a1), and is derived from a (meth)acrylate ester, and (iii) a structural unit (a3), which contains a lactone functional group and is derived from a (meth)acrylate ester.